

Message Text

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71

ACTION CU-04

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FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2832

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 3903

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, UV

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR BOXING COACH

1. WE WISH TO FOLLOW-UP ON BRIEF BUT HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT
OF CU SPONSORED MILITARY BOXING TEAM TO UPPER VOLTA NOV. 2-6. BOXING
IS ONE OF ONLY TWO SPORTS WHERE VOLTANS PREPARED COMPETE AT
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, AND VISIT DEMONSTRATED KEEN INTEREST AT
ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY.

2. REQUEST CU APPROVAL AND RECRUITMENT OF BOXING
COACH FOR 8 WEEK AMERICAN SPECIALIST GRANT IN UPPER VOLTA TO WORK
WITH VOLTAN BOXERS AND COACHES. THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS
AND BOXING OFFICIALS ARE ENTHUSISTIC ABOUT THE IDEA OF HAVING AN
AMERICAN COACH.

3. EMBASSY PROJECTS FIVE FY 77 IVS PLUS AMERICAN TEACHER/RESEARCHER
NOW HERE, LEAVING APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 4200 IN CU ALLOCATION.
WOULD THIS BE ENOUGH TO FUND THE COACH?

4. BELIEVE VOLUNTEERS CAN BE RECRUITED LOCALLY TO ACT AS ESCORT-
INTERPRETERS DURING STAY. RECENT VISIT OF BOXERS DEMONSTRATED
THAT ACTUAL COACHING SESSIONS REQUIRE LITTLE VERBAL ASSISTANCE.

5. TIMING IS NOT CRITICAL AS LONG AS IT IS BEFORE THE WEST
AFRICAN GAMES SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 1977. IF COACH CAME IN JAN-
UARY, HOWEVER, HE WOULD BE ABLE TO WORK IN COOLER WEATHER.

6. LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING CU REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL.GRAHAM

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